

Date: May 7, 2010

BILL AND NANCY SHIEW
23755 N. HIGHWAY 89
PAULDEN, AZ 86334

Dear Bill and Nancy,

This document contains your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Tule Allotment during the 2010 grazing season. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as indicated in part three of your permit.

1. Season of Use and Numbers to be Grazed

Your 2010 annual validation and billing period will allow for the following period of use with the following numbers allowed:

20 horses from February 1, 2010 to December 15, 2010

300 cattle from May 15, 2010 to December 15, 2010

2. Pasture Sequence

The following is the pasture grazing sequence for the 2010 grazing season:

Pasture	Period of Use	Number of Days
May	February 1 to May 15 (horses)	104
	May 15 to 29 (cattle)	15
Pine	May 30 to July 18 (horses & cattle)	50
White Horse	July 19 to August 27 (horses & cattle)	40
Sycamore	August 28 to October 31 (horses & cattle)	65
Pocket/Wagner	November 1 to December 15 (horses & cattle)	45
Tule	RESTED	0
Lee	RESTED	0

Livestock are to be actively herded from one pasture to the other. It is your responsibility to ensure that all livestock are removed from each pasture or off the Forest within 5 days of the scheduled off date. If you cannot meet this time frame, you must contact the Forest Service before this period has expired to request an extension.

Without prior notification from you and Forest Service approval, any livestock remaining in pastures or on the Forest after the off-dates are permit violations and may result in suspension or cancellation of all, or a portion of your Term Grazing Permit.

These pasture Grazing Periods and Number of Days in each pasture are tentative, subject to adaptive management. It may be necessary to change the pasture rotation or the number of days in each pasture. It is important for both the Permittee and the Forest Service to notify each other promptly if it appears that changes to this schedule may be necessary.

3. Range Improvements

- 1) The Permittee must follow the Heavy Equipment Policy (amended December 2008) before starting any work that involves soil disturbance.

Maintenance of Range Improvements –

Range improvements assigned to you need to be inspected and the problems found corrected on a yearly basis. All fences must be maintained to standard before livestock enter a pasture.

The Forest Service will not provide any material for routine maintenance. The Permittee may request a Forest Products Free Use Permit in order to cut juniper fence posts and stays for use only on their Forest Service allotment. No tree cutting is allowed without a forest products permit.

Hazard trees may need to be cut to prevent them from falling on fences. However, no tree cutting may be conducted without specific written permission from the Forest Service.

Written authorization is required before any work can begin.

Maintenance planned:

- 2) The trick tank below Pocket Lake needs maintenance due to a leak.
- 3) These tanks need to be cleaned out: Kennedy Tank #7883, Thumb Tank #7904, and Winter Camp Tank #7890.

Construction or Re-construction of Range Improvements --

All new construction and re-construction must conform to the standards specified by your district grazing permit administrator.

When the funds are available, the Forest Service will contribute materials or labor to cover one half of the cost of installing new range improvements.

Construction or re-construction planned:

- 1) Re-construct the JD Dam Trap fence #7704 (approximately 2 miles at the south end) that was burned in the Trick Fire back burn operation. The FS can provide materials
- 2) Repair Pine Mountain Tank #8041.
- 3) Re-construct and repair portions of fence within the Tule and Pine Pastures that were burned during the Cross Fire in 2009. The FS can provide materials.

4. Livestock Distribution

Grazing Intensity will be more uniform across the pasture if livestock are well distributed. Distribution aids include: water hauls, waterlot control, salt and supplement stations, and herding. Livestock may remain in each pasture during the entire permitted use period if Grazing Intensity does not exceed the Allowable Use Standard throughout the pasture. If the Allowable Use Standard is exceeded in one area of the pasture because you don't move your animals from a preferred location, then livestock must be moved to the next pasture in the rotation or off the allotment. Areas exempt from this requirement are lands within ¼ mile of permanent water sources that are not fenced.

The following requirements apply to portable water hauling:

- a) Coordinate with your district grazing permit administrator at your annual validation meeting or prior to the Grazing Period to identify portable water haul locations for individual pastures.
- b) Provide wildlife escape ramps in all water troughs and open metal storage tanks. The Kaibab National Forest is in the process of acquiring ramps and should be able to provide each Permittees with at least one escape ramp.
- c) Remove portable haul water storage tanks and troughs when livestock leave the pasture.

The following requirements apply to the use of salt and supplements:

- a) Place salt in portable containers, rather than directly on the ground, in order to protect the soil.
- b) Remove the salt and supplements when the livestock leave the pasture.

Place portable water troughs and salt/supplement stations in these locations:

- a) At least ¼ mile away from permanent water
- b) Areas of light forage Utilization. Move the water or salt/supplement when the Allowable Use Standard has been met.
- c) Different sites than were used last year
- d) On soils that are not fragile or eroding
- e) On sites that are not in wetlands or drainages
- f) On sites that do not have populations of rare plants, if known

Hay may be used only when snow has greatly limited the use of available forage. You are encouraged to use only **Certified Weed Free Hay**. The same considerations for distribution will apply when feeding hay as given above when using salt and supplements.

Gates in waterlot fences will be left open for wildlife, unless closed on a temporary basis to facilitate cattle distribution in the pasture.

5. Drought Management

Leaving an adequate amount of residual vegetation after grazing is always important in order to maintain or improve rangeland health, but it is especially important during and after droughts. Residual vegetation provides cover and litter that improve soil stability and fertility. It also improves water infiltration and soil moisture content. Plant and litter cover moderate the microclimate which improves seedling germination and survival. Leaving at least 50% of the plant canopy allows the plant to build healthy roots, set seed, and survive the drought. Residual vegetation provides forage and cover for wildlife.

As always, Permittees are strongly encouraged to reduce the number of animals stocked during droughts. If the Permittee is authorized to stock full numbers, it is likely that livestock will have to move through the pastures more quickly and be removed from the allotment at an earlier date because carrying capacity (i.e. Animal Unit Months (AUMs) available) is reduced during a drought.

6. Allowable Use (Utilization) Guidelines

The Northern goshawk and the Mexican spotted owl (MSO) are known to occur on the Tule Allotment. A new map of MSO and Northern Goshawk habitat on the allotment will be provided upon request. MSO Restricted Habitat is scattered within every pasture; Protected Habitat is found entirely below the rims of Sycamore and Tule Canyons. Northern Goshawk habitat (territory or home range) is found in the Tule, Pine, White Horse, Lee, and Sycamore pastures.

The Allowable Use Standards for the Tule Allotment are 40% in the grassland key areas and 20% in forested areas with Mexican Spotted Owl (MSO) and/or Northern Goshawk habitat. Livestock must be moved to the next pasture or off the allotment when use reaches Moderate Grazing Intensity (from May 1 to August 15) or Conservative Grazing Intensity (from August 16 to December 15) in the grassland key areas or Light Grazing Intensity (all season) in MSO or Northern Goshawk habitat.

Allowable Use Standards must not be exceeded in key areas of the allotment. Key areas are identified as areas that have easy access for livestock, are close to watering points (1/4 to 1 mile away), and have desirable species composition and vigor for the specific area. The location of key areas for forage Grazing Intensity and Percent Forage Utilization monitoring and key forage species should be discussed with your district grazing permit administrator.

7. Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping

All Permittees are encouraged to keep records of Grazing Use and Intensity in each pasture and submit them to their district grazing permit administrator in the middle and at the end of the permitted Grazing Period. Grazing Intensity should be estimated in key areas that are located at least 1/4 mile away from water or salt/supplement stations.

Data to collect include: pasture name, dates of actual use, type and class of livestock, number of livestock, approximate location of key area, Grazing Intensity class, and date of observation.

Other notes may be recorded, such as precipitation records or observations. A form is attached to this AOI. If you are not familiar with methods of estimating Grazing Intensity, we will arrange for training on an individual or group basis.

8. Fire

Be careful with campfires and branding fires. Pile burning is not permitted.

During periods of critical fire danger the Forest Supervisor may declare a Red Flag Alert or issue other special restrictions. Under these conditions, the building or use of fires, the use of power saws, heavy equipment, vehicles, ATVs, and other motorized equipment may be prohibited on Forest Service land.

Cooperation in the prevention and suppression of fires will be expected as specified in Section 10 of General Provision and Requirements, page 2, of your Term Grazing Permit.

9. Motor Vehicle Restrictions

If you need to enter a motor vehicle restricted area, you must have special authorization in the form of an Off-Road Vehicle Permit or specific authorization through your Annual Operating Instructions. Entering a restricted area without authorization is a violation of 36 CFR 261.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact Natural Resource Specialist Karlynn Huling at 635-5621 (email - khuling@fs.fed.us), or FAX at (928) 635-5680.

Sincerely,

/s/ Clare Hydock (for)
MARTIE SCHRAMM
District Ranger

cc: Elizabeth M Otero

GRAZING INTENSITY MONITORING RECORD

Allotment: _____ Pasture: _____

Data Collector: _____ Permittee: _____

Dates of Actual Use: _____

Type and Class of Livestock: _____

Number of Livestock: _____

KEY AREA NAME & LOCATION	MONITORING DATE	GRAZING INTENSITY CLASS
<i>Example – Kaibab Flat, ~1/2 mile NE of Empty Tank, NW 1/4 of Section 28, 200' from Rd. 15</i>	<i>Example – June 5, 2007</i>	<i>Example – Moderate</i>

Grazing Intensity Choices: Light, Conservative, Moderate, Heavy, Severe

Precipitation Records:

Notes:

